

Department of Transportation Metro Transit Division General Manager's Office 201 S. Jackson Street KSC-TR-0415 Seattle, WA 98104-3856

October 23, 2009

Ms. Anne Fritzel, Senior Planner Growth Management Services Washington State Department of Commerce PO Box 42525 Olympia, Washington 98504-2525

Dear Ms. Fritzel:

As a member of the Downtown Transportation Alliance (DTA), whose mission it is to reduce drive-alone commute trips into downtown Seattle by 6-percentage points, I am writing this letter to express my support on behalf of the City of Seattle's application to the Energy Efficiency through Transportation Planning (EETP) grant to fund Seattle Center City Bicycle Facilities Assessment and Program Development Plan.

Increasing the number of bicycle commuters to downtown is vital to our goal of reducing drivealone commuter trips into downtown, thereby improving access to downtown, accommodating job creation, as well as reducing vehicles miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Seattle's intended assessment of private-sector bicycle facilities provides an important first step in the opportunity to optimize existing infrastructure and leverage future private-sector investments where current facilities are discovered to be inadequate.

The DTA and King County Metro Transit value the proposed project, and urge the Washington State Department of Commerce to fund it.

Sincerely,

Kevin Desmond General Manager

Metro Transit Division